

31 said divalent metal salt of said acrylic acid compound per unit of said acrylic acid compound
32 and in the range of from about 0 to about 2.25 units of said monovalent metal salt of said acrylic
33 acid compound per unit of said acrylic acid compound, and
34 said acrylic acid compound is represented by the formula $\text{CH}_2=\text{CR}-\text{COOH}$ and R is
35 hydrogen or a methyl group[.]

36 and further wherein

37 said gel is stable at temperatures up to about 450 degrees Fahrenheit.

38 B. Please cancel claim 3 without prejudice.

39 C. In claim 4 please delete "claim 3" and insert therefore --claim 2--.

40 D. In claim 5 please delete "claim 3" and insert therefor --claim 2--.

41 E. Please amend claim 12 as follows:

42 12. A method of making a gel which is not water soluble comprised of making a water
43 soluble polymer comprising:

44 forming a polymer precursor by mixing an acrylic acid compound with a material
45 selected from the group consisting of a divalent metal compound, a monovalent metal
46 compound and mixtures thereof,

47 combining a polymerization initiator with said precursor, [and]

48 permitting said precursor to form said water soluble polymer[.] and

49 combining said water soluble polymer with a cross linking agent to form said gel;

50 wherein